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less, as helpless, as pitiable as a new-born babe. It sprawls, it clutches at the moon it indulges in senseless cries, it has the colic, it crawls for any bright light that attracts it. Thus it often falls into the fire. And the greater entity, the country, the mother of it, she who brought it forth in travail, looks on and endures its imperious moods and forgives its impudent mewling. Doubtless the spark of Plato that is imbedded in my brain protests loudly at my folly, and so throughout the land men grumble at Congress and wish they were there to be wiser. But the wisest would be just as foolish in the foolish whole.

But in the case of the child, as soon as he gets out of his swaddling-clothes he is sent to a kindergarten, which is an institution for organized laziness. He is, at least, kept out of mischief, and his spirit of destructiveness and waste is turned into harmless channels. I would propose, therefore, to have a kindergarten for legislatures. It could be arranged this way: the first year, or possibly the first two years, of its corporate existence should be merely experimental. It might pass as many laws as it cared to spend the time on, but none of them should take effect. Meantime the legislature last elected would have been somewhat schooled and have come out of that foolish stage, and might be entrusted with some genuine functions. The details of this kindergarten can be easily worked out; but the suggestion I offer with no mistrust that there will be seen in it any insidious plea for a revolution in our government or a suggestion for a tenure of office dependent on something as fickle as the "popular will."

N. H. DOLE.

### III.

#### HOW TO SUPPRESS QUACKERY.

DR. AUSTIN FLINT, in the October issue of *THE REVIEW*, outlines a plan which, he thinks, if adopted by the Legislature of the State of New York, would also be adopted by all the other States in the Union, and do much towards closing the door of quackery in the medical profession, which now stands so wide open. Many of the provisions of the proposed act are very excellent, but the opening article would, I think, prevent the regents of the State University from giving the plan a moment's consideration. The article reads as follows:

"I. The regents of the University of the State of New York to appoint a board of medical examiners, to consist of fourteen members, seven to be nominated by the unsectarian medical colleges empowered to confer the degree of M.D. in the State of New York, and to be teachers in said colleges, and seven to be nominated by the unsectarian State medical societies; the board to be so constituted that there shall be two examiners for each of the seven subjects of practice of medicine, surgery, obstetrics, materia medica and therapeutics, physiology, anatomy, chemistry and the collateral branches."

I do not believe the State will ever lower the dignity of its University or insult its officers by permitting any medical school or society to dictate to them in the appointment of their committees. The same power which made the State University can unmake it, and its officers will be pretty careful how they violate in their work the strict principles of justice to all.

In the discussion of the question of a "State board of medical examiners" before the Senate committee last winter, I was present by special invitation. I stated that I believed an arrangement could be made by which the license to practise medicine by a board of examiners of one State would be good in every State when the provisions of their boards of examiners were the same. I argued that the board of examiners of this State should be appointed by the regents of the State University, of which the medical schools form a part; the examinations to be written in answer to questions selected by the regents from those sent them by the examiners; the name of the student and the college from which he graduated being in no case communicated to the examiners. I recommended also that there should be no examiner in therapeutics, but the student, having mastered the groundwork of his profession and familiarized himself with the physiological action of remedial agents, should be left to his own judgment in their application. As the examination papers would be deposited in the archives of the University for future reference in case of supposed injustice, there could be no possible chance of favoritism, and all the colleges would stand or fall solely on

their own merits. These suggestions were cordially indorsed by the representatives of the old school as being, in their estimation, a just and practical solution of the whole question, and undeniably not only in the interest of the public, whose servants we all claim to be, but also of every educated member of the profession.

EGBERT GUERNSEY, M. D.

#### IV.

##### A CHANCE FOR MILLIONAIRES.

THE opportunity awaits the man. In New York city to-day there is the chance for one or more persons of great wealth to make for themselves name and fame undying; to win the gratitude, respect, and admiration, not only of the United States, but of all America, of the whole civilized world; a chance to make their memory revered as long as the government shall last. And all this with little effort, as far as the millionaires are personally concerned.

There are men possessed of noble ideas and generous spirits who are anxiously searching for a way to benefit mankind through a proper disposition of their property. To them is this article addressed. It is written to suggest a plan for founding an institution which would be more far-reaching than any college, which would accomplish untold good, which would make evil-doers of whatever station tremble, which would aid struggling humanity to better its condition; an institution more powerful than pulpit, stage, or forum,—an absolutely truthful, unprejudiced, independent, daily paper, whose news columns shall tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, and whose editorials shall discuss both sides of every important question.

The vast power of American journalism cannot be denied, even fettered as it is on all sides. It accomplishes much good, but it also is responsible for much evil. Prejudiced, fearful, and often corrupt as is the press of to-day, it still remains the most influential factor in American civilization. In this respect all else sinks into insignificance beside it; and yet its bulwarks have been raised at an awful expense to good morals and good government.

Who is foolish enough to play the races on newspaper "tips"? Why does one journal suppress all but bare mention of a certain railroad accident, while another publishes a column account of the same? Why do papers cater respectively to the Irish, the German, the Italian vote? Why does one fight Catholicism, and a second war upon Protestants? Why do newspapers support party candidates, whether the latter are known to be honest men or the veriest scoundrels in the ward?

Every day an irresponsible reporter or correspondent hurls misery, shame, disgrace, upon some family for the sole purpose of lengthening his space bill. Within a month two suicides have been recorded whose causes are ascribed to the publication of certain articles. The men who took their own lives may not have been mentally sound; but is that any reason why homes should be invaded by unscrupulous ghouls of the press?

The journal of to-day is edited from the counting-room. The ideal newspaper has not yet made its appearance. The editorial and the business departments should be absolutely independent of each other. The paper should speak the truth, no matter how its advertising patronage or its political "pull" is affected.

A free and unsubsidized press—where will you find it? Papers all over the land will rise up, and each, patting itself, cry "Here!" But those in command know that the daily paper which prints the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, the daily paper whose editorial opinions are absolutely fearless and unprejudiced, does not exist in the United States.

The ideal paper should print in its news columns nothing but that which has been verified. Readers might not get particulars of a race war so soon as in one of the present "enterprising" journals; but when published in the ideal paper the news could be absolutely relied upon. The editorials should discuss in parallel columns both sides of leading questions. For example, articles advocating free trade and protection should appear simultaneously. In the case of a great strike, one column should contain the employer's views, another the laborer's arguments. Chicago should have the chance of putting forth her reasons for wanting the World's Fair as well as New York. The